AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE, AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the carbon content amounts to 0.06 to < 0.7 %.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the construction steel contains Cr up to < 6.5 %.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the Mn content amounts to 9-18 %.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the Mn content amounts to 18-22 %.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the Cr content amounts to 0.3-1.0 %.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the Mn content amounts to 22-30 %.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the Cr content amounts to 0.05-0.2 %.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the Si content amounts to 2.0-4.0 %.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the Al content amounts to 2.0-3.0 %.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the construction steel has a hydrogen content of < 20 ppm.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the construction steel has a hydrogen content of < 5 ppm.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the construction steel contains Cu of up to < 4 %.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the construction steel contains titanium and zirconium in total of up to < 0.7 %.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the construction steel contains niobium and vanadium in total of up to < 0.06 %.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the construction steel contains titanium, zirconium, niobium and vanadium in total of up to < 0.8 %.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the melt is fed onto the revolving conveyor band at a speed which is identical to a speed of the conveyor band.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the melt on the conveyor band is substantially through solidified at an end of the conveyor band.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising the step of subjecting the pre-strip to a homogenization zone after the feeding step but before the transferring step.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the further processing involves a coiling of the pre-strip.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising the steps of inline rolling the pre-strip and coiling up the pre-strip.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the pre-strip is subjected to a deformation degree of at least 50 %.

24. (Currently amended) A method of making a hot strip, comprising the steps of:

providing a melt of a lightweight construction steel with high tensile strength and with TRIP and/or TWIP characteristics, said construction steel comprising Si, Al and Mn as main elements and containing in mass-%

C 0.04 to < 1.0

Al 0.05 to < 4.0

Si 0.05 to < 6.0

Mn 9.0 to < 30.0,

the remainder being iron including incidental steel elements;

feeding the melt onto a revolving conveyor band of a horizontal strip casting unit to shape the melt close to a final dimension at calm flow and without bending, thereby forming a shell as the melt progressively solidifies across a width of the conveyor band and producing a pre-strip in the range between 6 and 15 mm;

conditioning a top side of the conveyor band by a ~~targeted~~ single-step structuring of the top side to ~~even out surface irregularities~~ effect same cool-down conditions across a width of the conveyor band;

cooling the shell substantially equally across [[a]] the width of the conveyor band; and

transferring the pre-strip for further processing.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the melt is subjected to a deformation degree of > 70 %.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the structuring step includes a process selected from the group consisting of sand blasting, brushing of the top side, and applying a nub structure.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the structuring step includes the step of applying a thermally insulating separation layer on the top side of the conveyor band by plasma spraying with aluminum oxide or zirconium oxide.